Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04170 251138Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /078 W

-----050262 251141Z/14

P R 250815Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS, LE

SUBJECT: SHOOTING INCIDENT IN BRIH

REF: BEIRUT 4110

- 1. AS OF AUGUST 24, TENSION REMAINED HIGH IN CHOUF, BUT THERE WERE NO FURTHER REPORTS OF FIGHTING THERE.
- 2. ON AUGUST 23 ARAB DETERRENT FORCE (ADF) ARRESTED 27
 PEOPLE SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT IN AUGUST 21 CHOUF
 INCIDENTS, ACCORDING TO PRESS AND OTHER SOURCES. ADF
 MADE ARRESTS DURING EARLY MORNING RAIDS ON VILLAGES OF
 BSABA, AL-MTULLAH, AND KAFR NABRAKH. ADF ALSO CONFISCATED
 250 WEAPONS, INCLUDING RIFLES, MACHINE GUNS AND PISTOLS.
- 3. ARRESTS HAVE APPARENTLY APPEASED CHRISTIANS SOMEWHAT. UNLIKE PREVIOUS DAY, NLP LEADER CAMILLE CHAMOUN REFRAINED FROM PUBLIC THREATS OF REPRISALS AND PRAISED GOOD INTENTIONS OF PRESIDENT. HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT ARRESTS WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT ENOUGH AND THAT "TANGIBLE AND DEFINITE RESULTS" (I.E. CONVICTIONS) WERE REQUIRED. IN ADDITION, CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS ASSERTIONS OF NLP MEDIA, CHAMOUN DECLARED THAT THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN INCIDENT IN CHOUF AND SITUATION IN SOUTH.

4. PIERRE GEMAYEL ISSUED PRESS COMMUNIQUE DEMANDING THAT

AUTHORITIES MAKE EXAMPLE OF GUILTY PEOPLE BY PUNISHING THEM. HE RECALLED CASE OF CRIMINAL "TAKMIL" WHO HAD BEEN HUNG AFTER 1958 EVENTS AND CLAIMED THAT HIS EXECUTION HAD HELPED RESTORE CALM

5. UNLIKE CHRISTIANS, NATIONAL MOVEMENT ISSUED COMMUNIQUE CONSIDERABLY TOUGHER THAN PREVIOUS STATEMENTS OF ITS MEMBERS. COMMUNIQUE SAID LATEST INCIDENTS WERE "DIRECT RESULT OF PROVOCATIVE CAMPAIGN" LAUNCHED BY KFUR FRONT, WHICH INCLUDED "INFILTRATION OF WEAPONS AND ARMED ELEMENTS" INTO CHOUF.

6. INTERIOR MINISTER SALAH SALMAN PRESIDED OVER MEETING IN BEIT ED DINE ATTENDED BY DEPUTIES AND OFFICIALS FROM CHOUF TO DISCUSS WAYS TO MAINTAIN CALM. CHEIKH AKL OF THE DRUZES, MAYOR OF DAYR AL QAMAR, MAIN CHRISTIAN TOWN IN CHOUF, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF NLP AND PSP REFUSED TO ATTEND, HOWEVER. PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS, ARRESTS, ARMS CACHES

Control Number: n/a

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 1491750 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SHOOTING INCIDENT IN BRIH

TAGS: PINS, LE To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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